

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 IO-10 NIC-01 /072 W  
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P R 031113Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8192

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

EUCOM

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: PARTY REACTION TO KORUTURK STATEMENT

REF: ANKARA 1720

1. ALL POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE RESPONDED TO PRESIDENT KORUTURK'S MARCH 1 STATEMENT DESIGNATING SADI IRMAK TO FORM A NATIONAL COALITION GOVERNMENT.

2. LINING UP IN SUPPORT OF A NATIONAL COALITION ARE:

A. REPUBLICAN PEOPLES' PARTY (RPP) CHAIRMAN ECEVIT (IN SPEECH AT ANTALYA MARCH 2): "THE RPP IS READY TO ACCEPT A GOVERNMENT BASED ON PARLIAMENT ON THE BASIC CONDITION OF RENEWING ELECTIONS." HE SAID THAT IT WAS THE DUTY OF THE RPP TO ASSIST IRMAK IN FORMING A NATIONAL COALITION OR, FAILING THAT, ANY OTHER FORMULA BASED ON EARLY ELECTIONS.

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B. DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP) CHAIRMAN BOZBEYLI ANNOUNCED ON MARCH 1: "WE SUPPORT WITH PLEASURE IRMAK'S DESIGNATION TO FORM THE GOVERNMENT." (HOWEVER, PARTY IS PROBABLY DIVIDED ON THIS ISSUE AS DP DEPUTIES MENDERES AND ASAL DAY BEFORE IRMAK'S DESIGNATION ANNOUNCED THAT THEY SUPPORTED A NATIONALIST FRONT GOVERNMENT UNDER JUSTICE PARTY (JP) CHAIRMAN DEMIREL.

C. NATIONALIST ACTION PARTY (NAP) (3 SEATS IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY) SECGEN ERKOVAN SAID "AS THE NAP, WE HAD PROPOSED A NATIONAL COALITION TO THE PRESIDENT EARLIER. WE SUPPORT WITH SATISFACTION THAT IT HAS COME TO THAT POINT." (COMMENT: NAP POSITION IF DEFINITIVE WOULD MEAN THAT PARTY HAS IN EFFECT BROKEN WITH THE NATIONALIST FRONT).

3. OPPOSING FORMATION OF A NATIONAL COALITION:

A. JUSTICE PARTY (JP) DEPUTY CHAIRMAN KILIC, IN STRONG STATEMENT CRITIZING KORUTURK'S DECLARATION, SAID: "WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE PRESIDENT WILL BE ABLE TO REALIZE THE MODEL OF GOVERNMENT WHICH HE PRESCRIBES...NOR ARE WE CONVINCED THAT SUCH A GOVERNMENT WILL BRING ANY GOOD TO TURKEY...WE FEAR THAT THIS STATEMENT WILL DEEPEN THE CRISIS AND MAKE THE SOLUTION MORE DIFFICULT." KILIC ALSO IMPLIED THAT KORUTURK HAD EXCEEDED HIS AUTHORITY IN RECOMMENDING THE FORM THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE AND THAT THE PRESIDENT'S JUSTIFICATION "FALLS AT ODDS WITH THE MULTI-PARTY DEMOCRATIC REGIME IDEA WHICH TURKEY HAS BEEN WORKING TO REALIZE FOR 28 YEARS."

B. NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY (NSP) CHAIRMAN ERBAKAN STATED "THERE IS NO QUESTION OF A CHANGE IN OUR IDEAS. WE ARE PREPARED, AS THE NATIONALIST FRONT, TO FORM THE GOVERNMENT. IF THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE OUTSIDE OF US, THIS COULD BE TRIED, BUT IN OUR OPINION THERE IS ONLY ONE SOLUTION AT THIS TIME."

4. REPUBLICAN RELIANCE PARTY (RRP) CHAIRMAN FEYZIOGLU CALLED FOR CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE NATIONALIST FRONT LEADERS. HE NOTED THAT "PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY DOES NOT REJECT NOT ACCEPT ANY OTHER PREFERENCES THAN THOSE OF PARLIAMENT."

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5. COMMENT: ABOVE POSITIONS WILL BE SUBJECT TO CLARIFICATION AND PERHAPS CHANGE AS IRMAK CONSULTS WITH PARTY LEADERS BEGINNING MARCH 3. IT APPEARS, BASED ON THESE STATEMENTS, THAT IRMAK HAS A CHANCE AT A BARE MAJORITY OF 231 SEATS (226 REQUIRED). HOWEVER, THIS CHANCE LARGELY DEPENDS ON THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, WHICH COULD SPLIT OVER THE ISSUE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE IS A FAINT POSSIBILITY OF DEFECTIONS FROM THE NATIONALIST FRONT, WHICH ALREADY MAY HAVE LOST THE NATIONALIST ACTION PARTY.

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